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These Days

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STATINTL

Pattern of the New Left

THE CONTAGION that is the New Left has assumed its pattern for the 1966-67 college year. For the moment, "teach-ins" are out. The tactic now is round up the stooges on campus and march them out to assail any "militarist" connected with the CIA or the Pentagon who happens to be within shouting distance of university lecture halls.

Thus, at Harvard, the kids who go for the New Left's own type of conformism tried to "savagely" Secretary of Defense McNamara during his visit to Cambridge. There was a similar gang-up on Gen. Earle Wheeler, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, when he spoke in Pembroke Auditorium at Brown University in Providence, R.I. At Columbia, in New York City, 200 angry student doves unleashed their incongruous claws and went for a CIA recruiter, Harry Russell, who had come to interview under-

graduate aspirants to careers in the intelligence service.

The whole business has been very unmannerly in a completely patterned way. It lends force to the reflection that nobody on the New Left ever does anything that is the least original; the kids have to huddle for their signals just like Rotarians or the Loyal Order of Moose in a Sinclair Lewis novel.

THE TIP-OFF to the 1966-67 drive of the conforming New Leftist non-conformists came last summer when a dilatory student, working in cahoots with Ramparts magazine,

formed the world that the course listed as Political Science 551 in the University of Pennsylvania catalogue was "a course for spies." It so happens that "Pol Sci 551" at Pennsylvania is taught by a unique husband-wife team, Professors George and Charlotte Dyer, who worked together throughout World War II and the Korean War doing intelligence work for the U.S. Army. The official name of the course is "Strategic Intelligence and National Policy," and it has been in the Penn catalogue for 10 years.

The course has been an absolutely open one in a free university for which, as Professor Dyer points out, students register under their own names. If this is the way American spies are made, we may be sure that the Soviet Union has entered some of its own supporters in the Dyers' course.

Some years ago I happened to sit in for a session of the Dyers' class. The partners in this husband-wife team were about as far from being James Bond characters as you could imagine.

The assumption behind the course seemed to be that nations, if they hope to remain free, must have accurate knowledge about the strengths and weaknesses, the capacities and intentions, of their most likely enemies.

What the Dyers were trying to do was to teach students how to piece together available information about a possible enemy into a mosaic that would be of some use to both political and military policy makers.

In short, they were teaching how to use one's brains, which is surely a university function. And, partly to rescue the course from dryness, partly to teach the students something about the nature of the violent century in which we have been living, the Dyers held occasional military-political field maneuvers jointly with the ROTC, re-enacting such historical happenings as the destruction of the Warsaw ghetto or a battle in the

in the field maneuvers was voluntary. It was also fun.

RAMPARTS, hearing about the Dyers' course and other "militarist" activities at Penn, proceeded to jump all over the university. Since Ramparts is the house organ of the New Left, a student in the Dyers' course, trying to piece "intelligence" together, might logically conclude that the signal had gone out to "get" any university activity that stems from the philosopher Spinoza's belief that the first duty of a state is to maintain itself in freedom.

The events of the autumn, with the rude and crude attempts of the New Left to block the free speech of Secretary McNamara at Harvard, Gen. Wheeler at Brown, and CIA recruiter Russell at Columbia, show that some sort of Leftist concert exists.

It takes training in the Dyers' approach to things to see how this pattern fits in with the Communists' drive to force America to abandon its friends in South Vietnam and elsewhere.

What this country needs, then, is a course in "Strategic Intelligence and National Policy" in every university in the land. Too bad, we don't have more Dyers.

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